

POTTER'S MARSH HUNTING REGULATIONS 2006

1. All Federal and State regulations apply.
2. Waterfowl hunting must be conducted from a legal permitted blind, having platform construction with 4 side walls, and appropriate camouflaging materials. Minimum blind dimensions are 4' x 8' and must be able to withstand daily wear and tear. Each blind must include an attached boat hide with a minimum size of 18' x 6', except for blinds 57, 58 and 59. At blind sites 18, 31, 33, 53 and 54, hunters may, at their option, construct either a combined blind/boat hide or a boat hide alone and hunt from a boat anchored inside. This will reduce hunter cost as ice-out removes these water blinds every spring. If you cannot attach a boat hide to the blind, due to shallow water or other reasons, advise the District Office.
3. Blind and boat hide construction materials must be biodegradable to help reduce litter on the Refuge. STEEL, METAL, PLASTIC, FIBERGLASS, AND OTHER NON-BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS ARE PROHIBITED. Only willow, cattail, bulrush, lotus and/or arrowhead vegetation may be cut from Refuge lands for biodegradable building materials. Non-native species should not be brought onto the Refuge for brushing blinds. Example - Phragmites. If emergent vegetation is too dense to allow placement of decoys in front of blinds, then permittee may cut (not pull) vegetation from the immediate water (not land) area to allow decoy placement.
4. Permittees, or partners, are encouraged to salvage their building materials to help eliminate litter and debris on Refuge lands. All materials remaining after January 14, 2007 are subject to disposal by the Refuge.

5. Blinds must be constructed within 25' of the blind site marker. The marker must remain intact through the season but may be covered with burlap or other material. If you build the blind at a site different from where the blind was located previously, then all materials (including submerged materials) must be removed from the old blind site(s).

6. No decoys, boats, or other equipment may be left unattended on the area between 1/2 hour after the daily waterfowl closing time until one hour before shooting time.

7. A maximum of 4 people may hunt from one blind. The use of trained hunting dogs is encouraged at all blind sites to reduce the loss of crippled waterfowl.

8. Successful applicants or their hunting partners must occupy their blind 1/2 hour before the opening shooting time each day to claim the blind for that day. After this time, UNOCCUPIED BLINDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE. The disturbing, molesting or interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited.

9. Conviction of a violation of Refuge regulations or State or Federal game laws is sufficient cause for refusal of future Potter's Marsh blind applications or permits. The use / possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.

10. Each successful blind applicant will be sent a Harvest Information Card. This form will be used by hunters to identify their waterfowl harvest for the 2006 season. This information will be used to assist Refuge staff in future planning efforts.



11. Equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from, programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability. Persons who believe they have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should contact:

U.S. Department of Interior Office for Equal Opportunity
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

12. The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552) and the Privacy Act (5 USC 552a) prohibit the release of information on the successful applications.

For further information contact:

District Manager
Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
7071 Riverview Rd
Thomson, IL 61285
815-273-2732

<http://midwest.fws.gov/UpperMississippiRiver>

Hunters, Look for these signs



AREA SIGN



BLIND SITE SIGN

Revised June 21, 2006

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

POTTER'S MARSH BLIND MANAGEMENT ZONE Waterfowl Hunting Pool 13, **New** ILLINOIS 2006 APPLICATION AND REGULATIONS

Upper Mississippi River
National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
Savanna District

